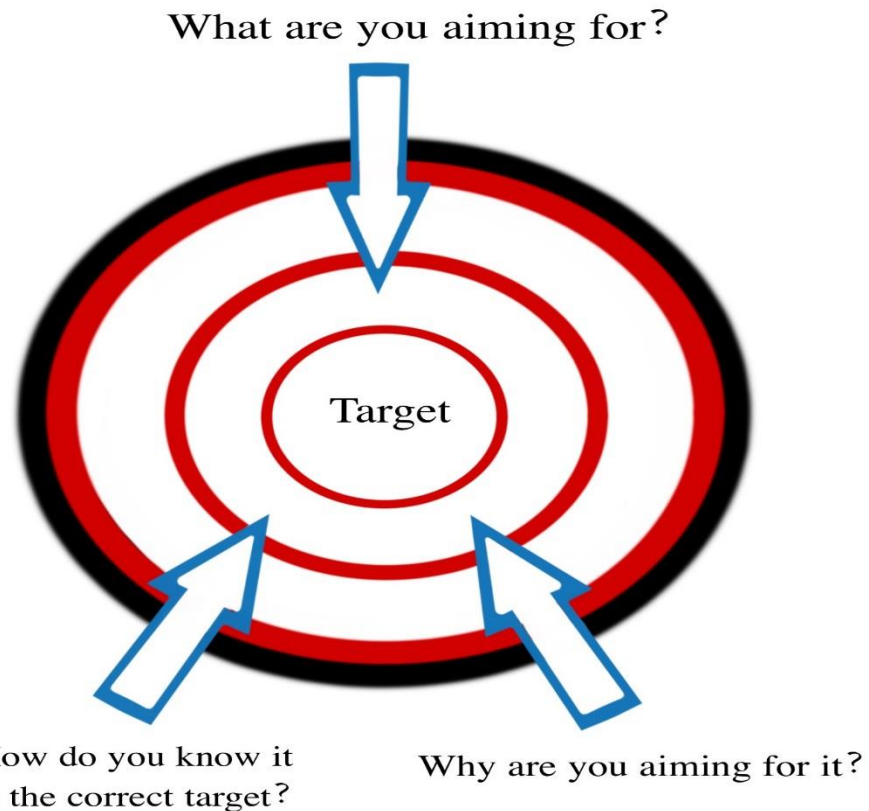


STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES:

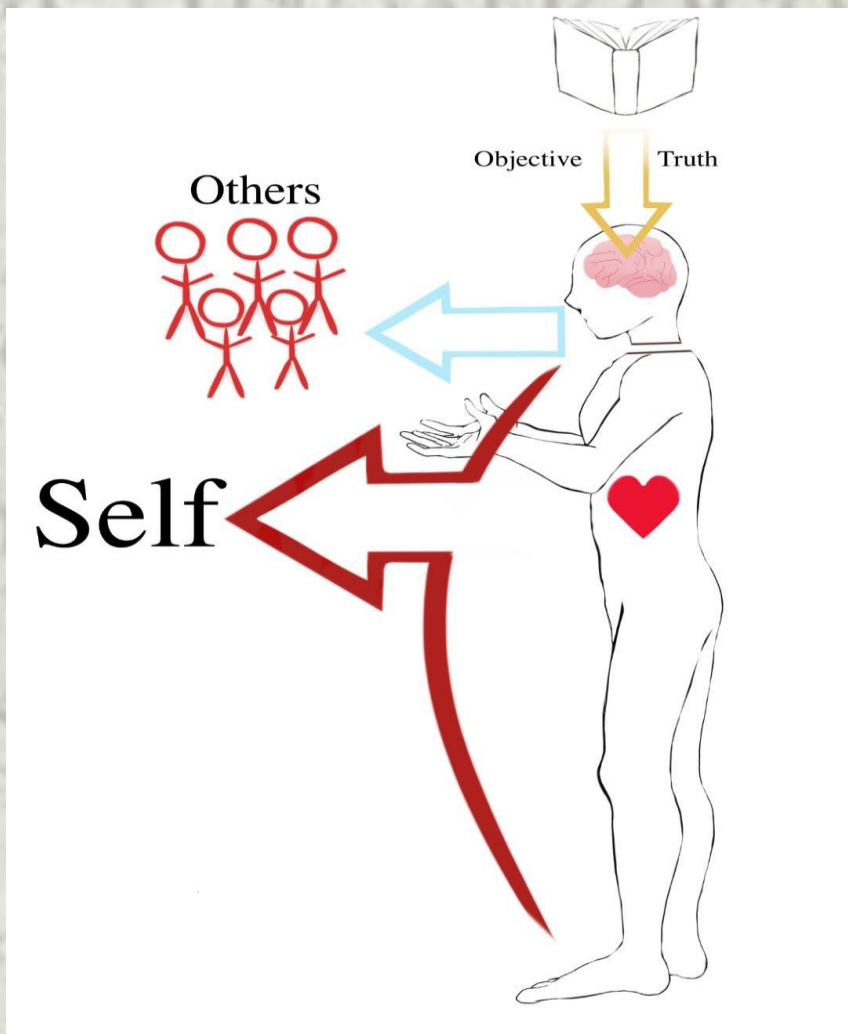
An Exercise To Discover the Divine Mind in a Post-Modern Age
By Means of the Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method of
Interpretation

The Post-Modern Challenge: Originalism



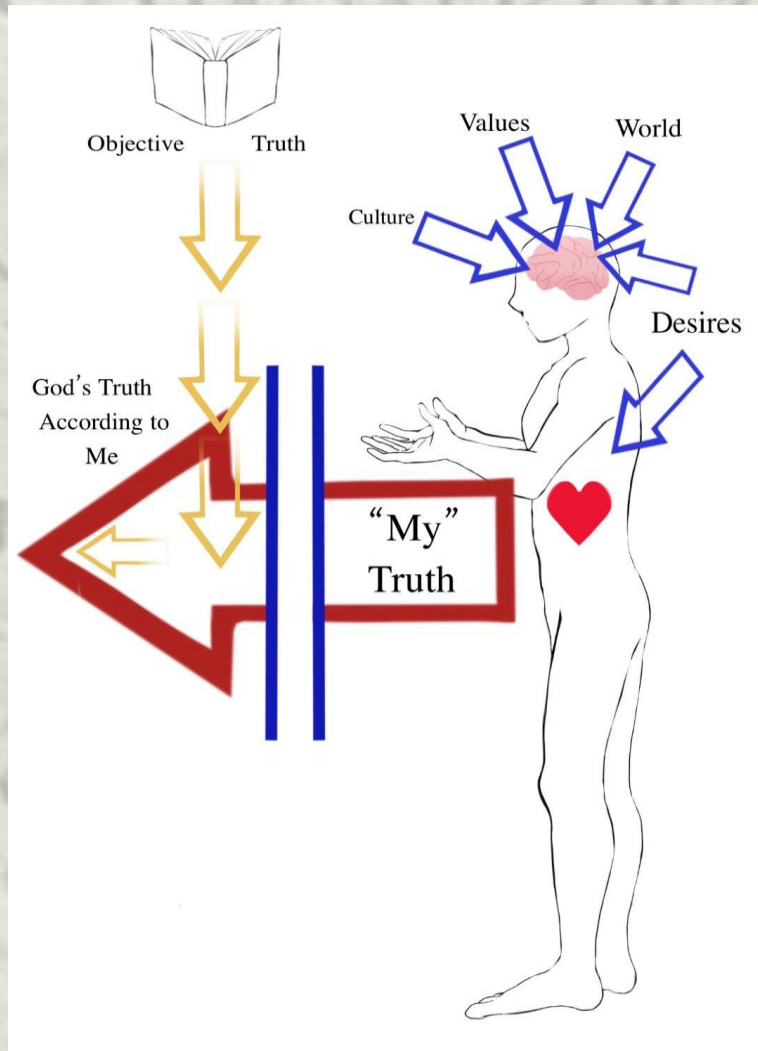
- The self-determined GOAL
- The self-determined MOTIVE
- The self-determined CONFIDENCE in RESULT

The Post-Modern Challenge: Skepticism



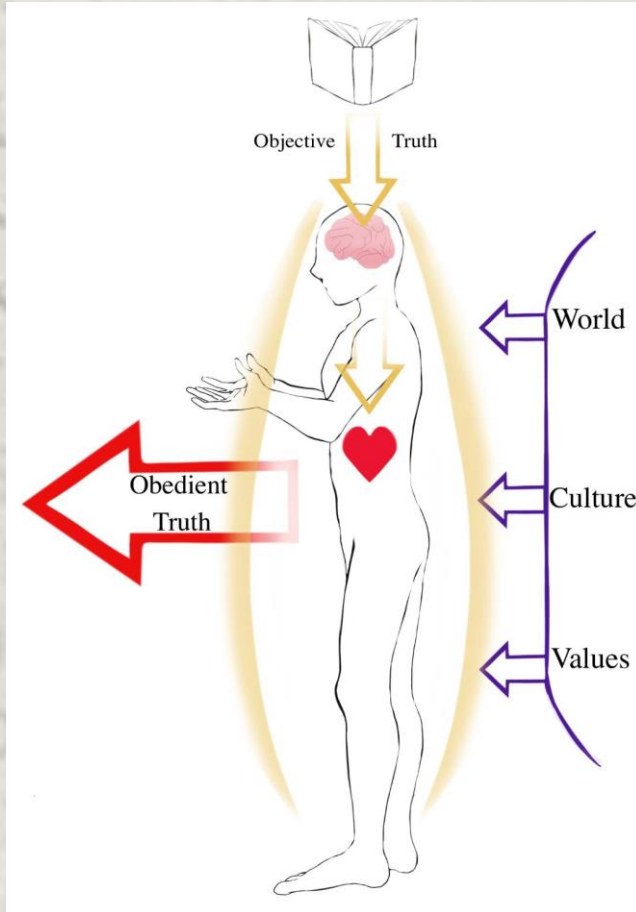
- Post-modernism creates skepticism in intellectual solutions
- Post-modernism places validity on authenticity and sincerity as truth categories rather than logic
- Inauthenticity to Self is Hypocrisy

The Post-Modern Challenge: Subjectivism



- Personal motives bred in the soil of post-modernism predetermine “truth.”
- Self-knowledge is the key for expansion.
- Ignorance of identity lowers ‘truth confidence.’

The Post-Modern Challenge: Repudiation



- Written Plenary Universal Objective Truth which Defines and Refines the Person is Rejected by Post-Modernism
- The Classic Methods of Bible Study with Searching for Original Intention is Deemed not Worthless, But Disingenuous, Destructive, and Dead

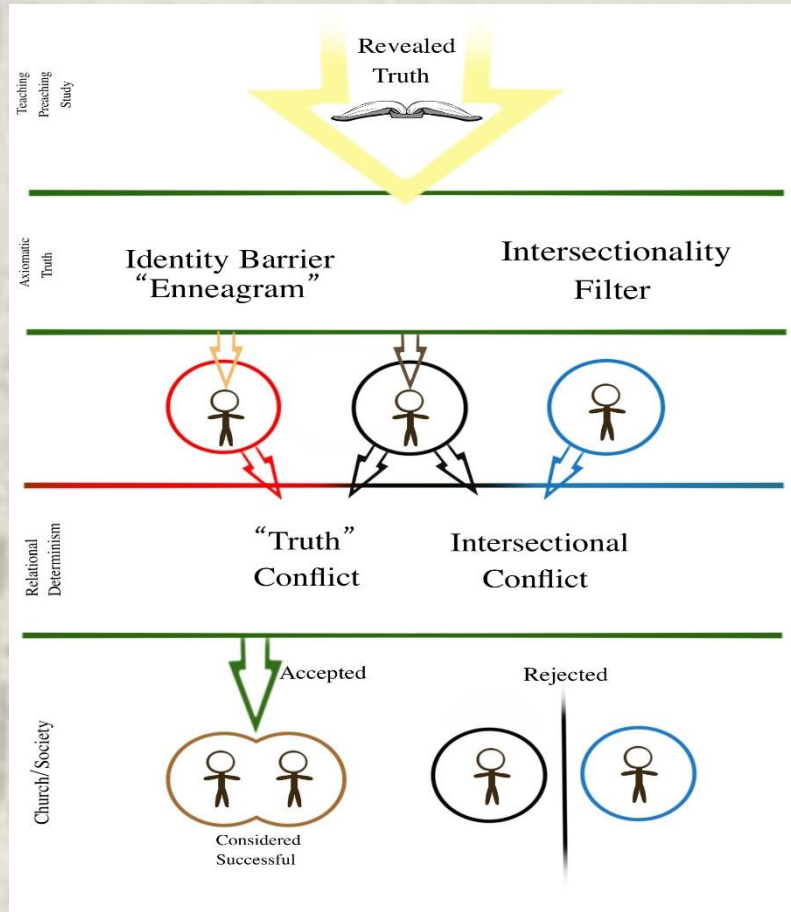
The Conclusion of Post-Modern Influence

- The GOAL of Bible Study is to Reinforce the Already Understood Identity that you ARE
- The MOTIVE of Bible Study is to Create Confidence in One's Identity and Behavior As IS and to Encourage Purpose and Desire in that Direction
- The CONFIDENCE in Bible Study is to the degree that one knows oneself and desires and validates that self-knowledge with divine reinforcement

The Evangelical Response to the Post-Modern Challenge: Widespread Acceptance

- Assimilate “Identity” Presuppositions in Church Administration, Bible Study, Teaching and Preaching
- Expect, Demand, Merge, and Expand Personal Impressionary Revelatory Language
- Elevate Proponents of Post-Modern Assimilation (Emergent Church)
- Reject and Have Suspicion of Classical Models of Church and Bible Study

The Evangelical Response to the Post-Modern Challenge: Anthropocentric Identity, Interpretation and Interrelations



- Interpose the Axiomatic Identity Barrier Between The Written Scripture and Each Person
- Permit Each Person to Filter by Intersectionality of Identity the Value
- Interpose a Relational Determinism based on Identity
- Generate Fellowship based on Co-Intersectionality

The Consequences to the Evangelical Acceptance of Post-Modernism:
A Dead and Damned People

The Majority of Church Attenders



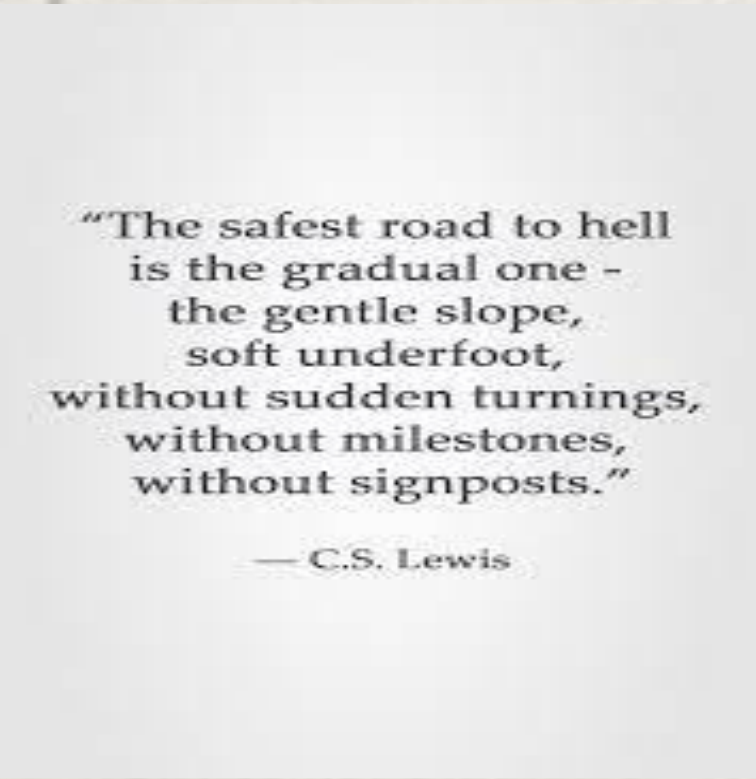
A Popular Road to Destruction



The Consequences to the Evangelical Acceptance of Post-Modernism: A People Fully Deceived

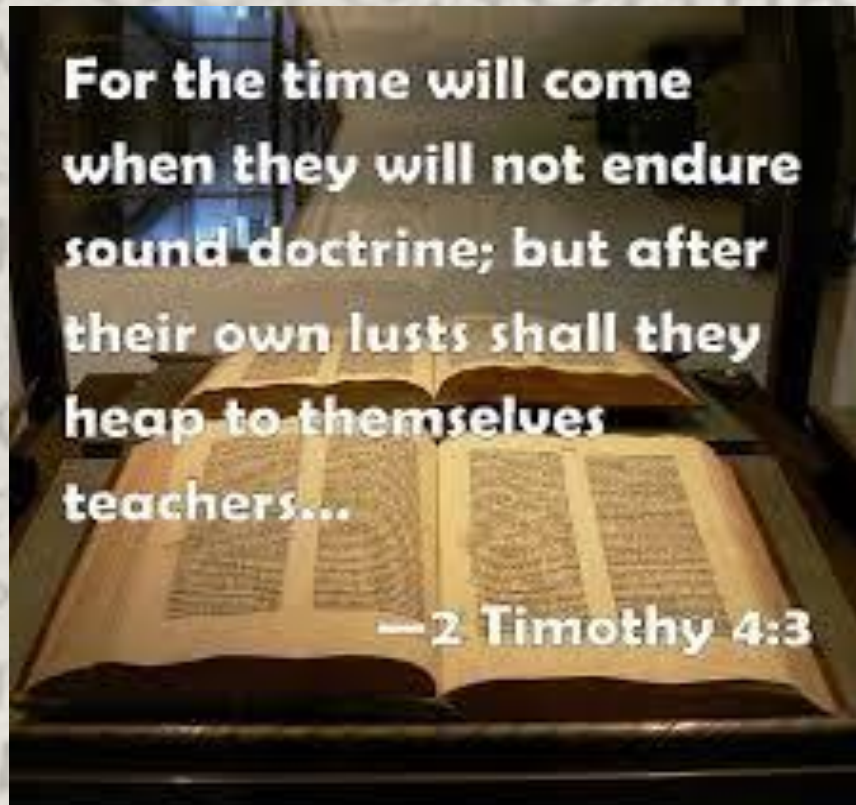
Every Person an Authority to Himself

Every Person Confident In His Choice

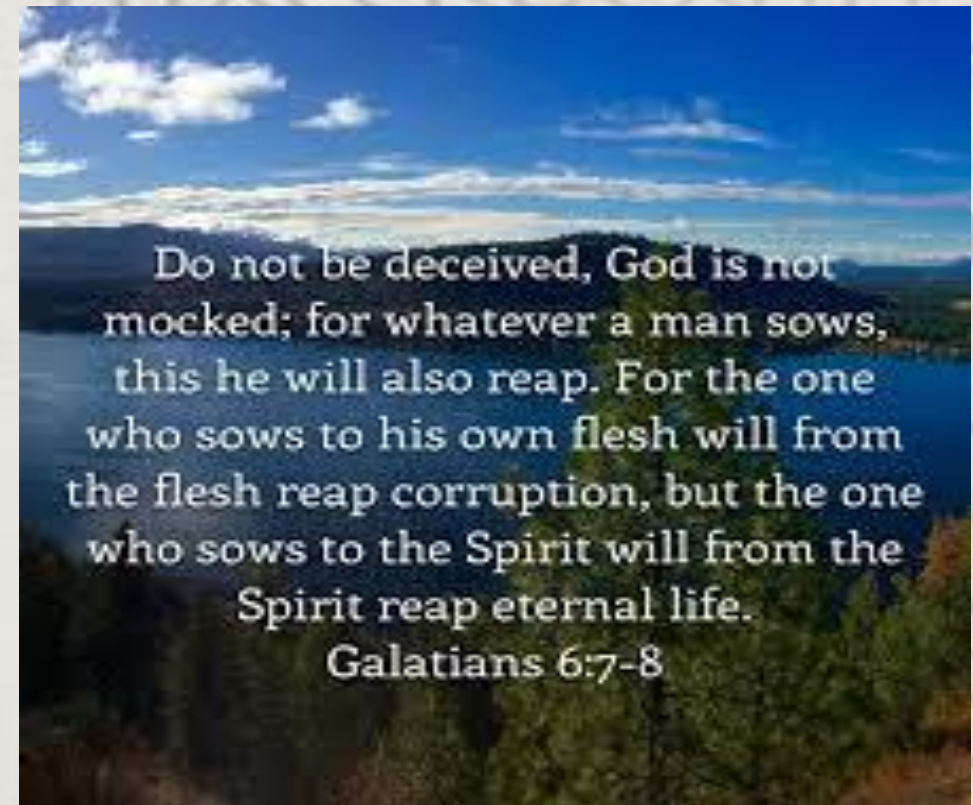


The Consequences to the Evangelical Acceptance of Post-Modernism: The Rise of Rank Heterodoxy and Heresy

Popular Heresy

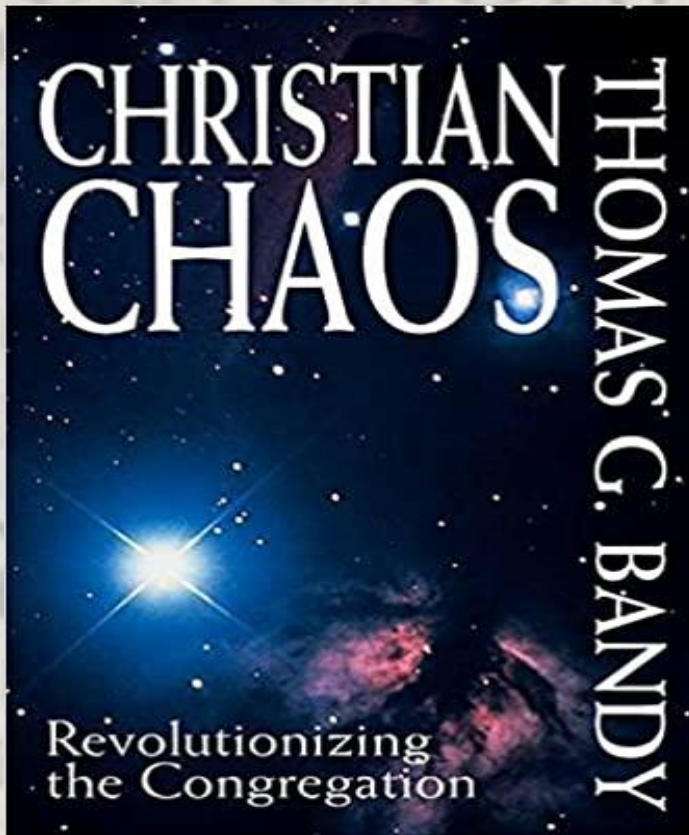


Reap the Harvest of Corruption



The Consequences to the Evangelical Acceptance to Post-Modernism: A Loss of Personal and Ecclesiastical Witness

Madness and Anarchy



Blasphemy



The Divine Verdict on Christian Post-Modernism: Rejection and Repentance

No Excuse In Judgment

2 Peter 1:20-21 (NASB)

- ²⁰ But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation,
- ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

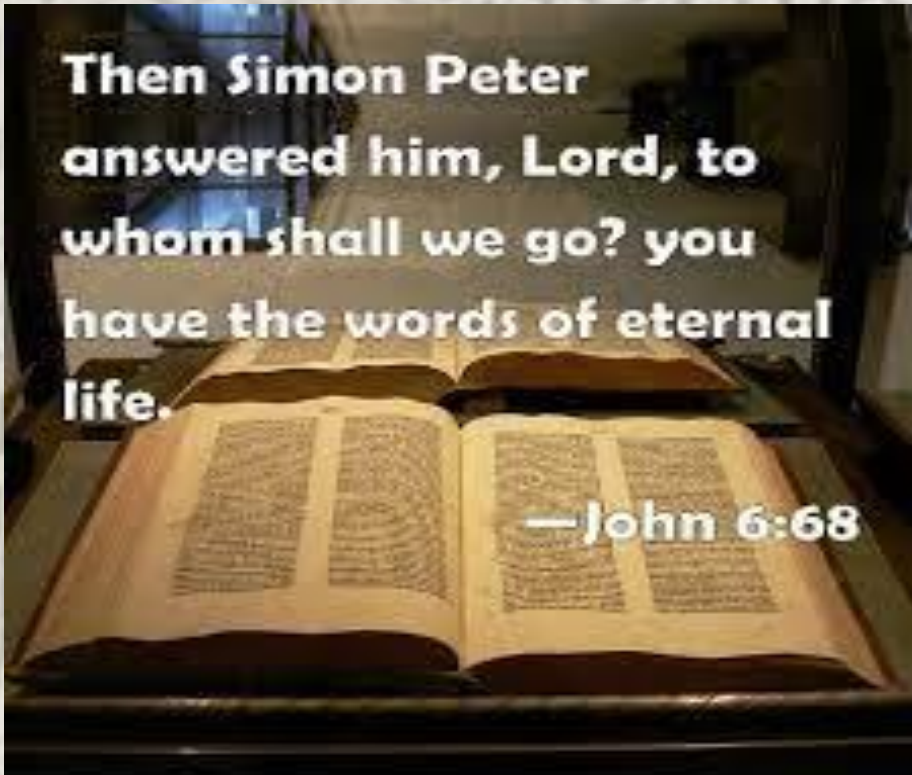
Repentance

1 Peter 2:1-3

Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

The Appropriate Christian Response to the Post-Modern Challenge: Allegiance to the Written Scriptures

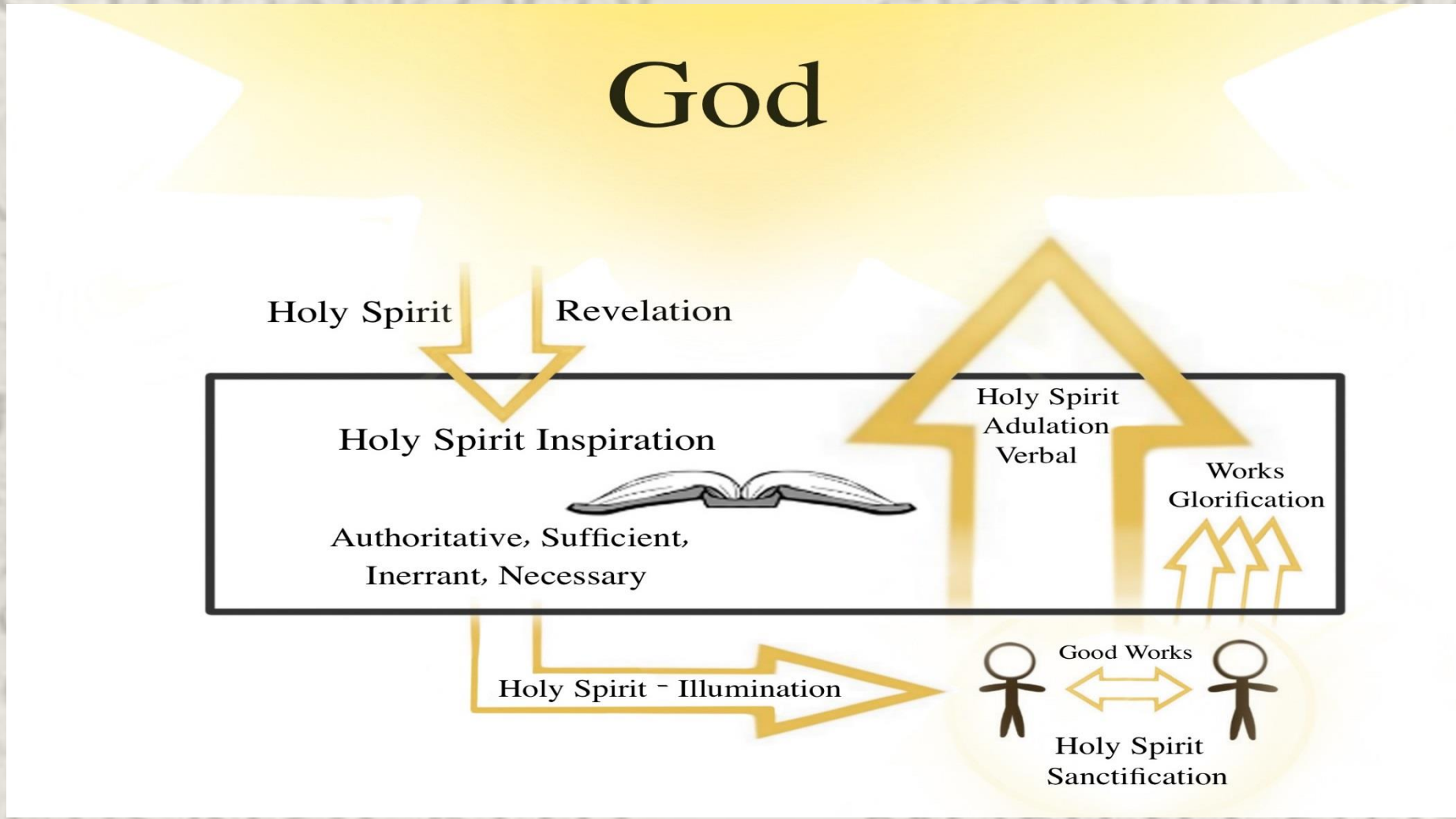
**Positively, Exclusive Adherence to the
Written Word**



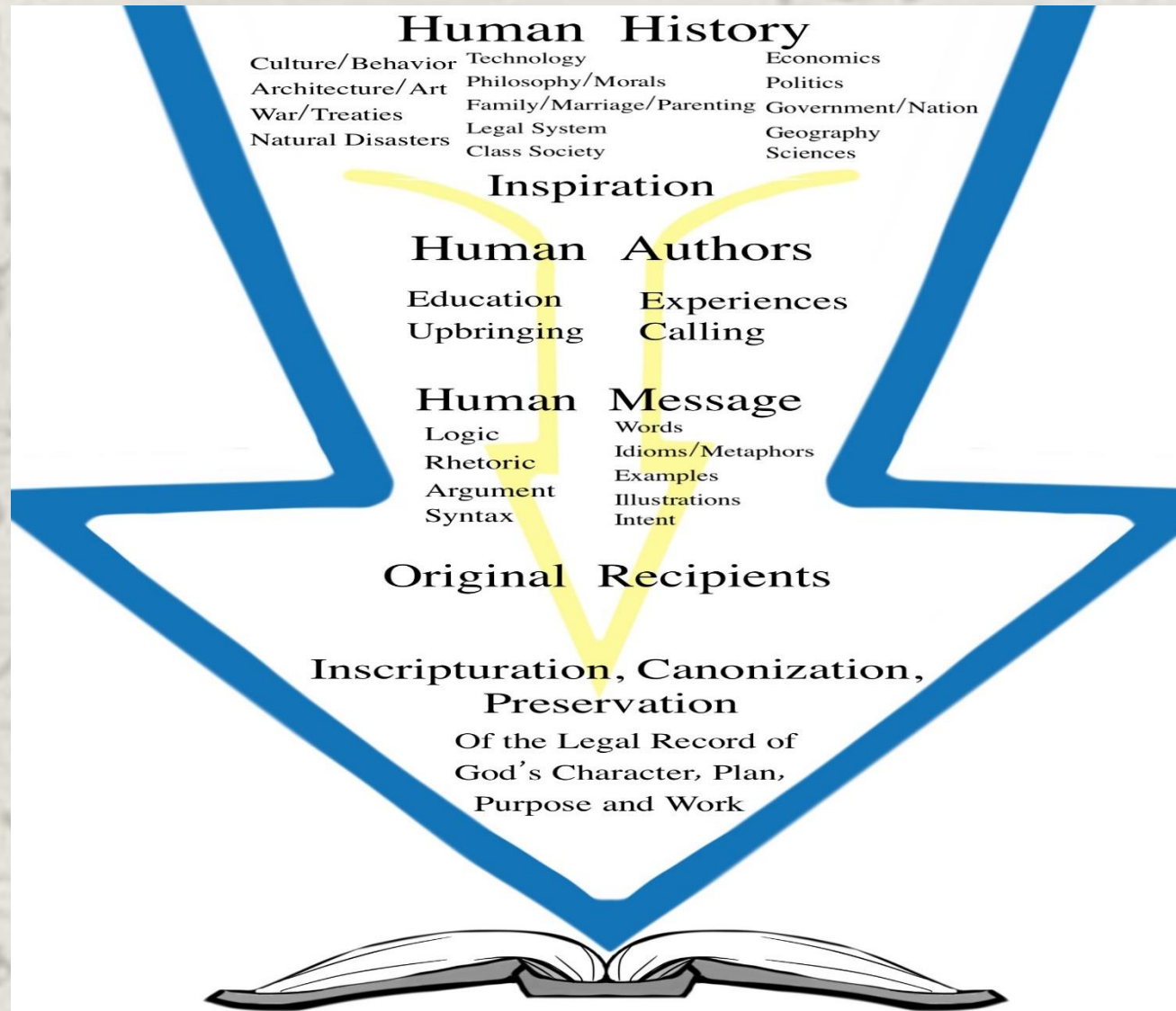
**Negatively, Exclusive Rejection of All
Other Voices and Judgments**



The Sovereign Design of God: Interpose the Scriptures



The Sovereign Work of God: Compatibilism of Divine Providence and Human Agency



The Sovereign Decree of God: An Eternal, Universal, True and Faithful, Legal Testimony

- To Know God Through His Word
- To Use the Human Process of Mind To Understand His Word
- God Revealed Himself in Human History through Agency fit for Human Understanding
- God Provides Divine Help to the Human Heart to Accept What He Has Revealed
- Discovering the Divinely Chosen Historical Setting and Original Intention is Authoritative, Necessary and Sufficient for All Everywhere Always
- God did not design His Sovereign Choice to Speak Through Scriptural Settings to be Bypassed in Knowing Him

The Human Goal, Motive and Confidence In Scripture Study

- The Goal of Bible Study is to Understand the Original Intent at the Time of Writing
- The Motive of Bible Study is to Honor God's Sovereign Character, Persons, Plan and Work as Revealed to all for all through the Original Intent
- The Confidence in Bible Study increases proportionally to the degree that Original Intent is clearly understood AND connected in the whole to the Character, Person, Plan, and Work of God
- "Personal" Bible Study is Individual Study to Understand Original Intent

Methods of Bible Interpretation: The Possibilities

- The 10,000 Fly-By Method
- The Plug-and-Play Method
- The Point-and-Click Method
- The Group-Think Method
- The Regurgitative Method
- The Specialization Method
- The Topical Method
- The Pray-the-Scripture Method
- The Inductive Bible Study Method
- The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

Methods of Bible Interpretation: The Dangers

- Ignores the Divine Distribution of Gifts in the Church
- Causes Confusion and Frustration on Where to Begin
- Favors Those Who Can Afford Resources/Advanced Education
- Ignores the Part for the Whole OR the Whole for the Part
- Denies the Perspicuity of Scripture
- Severs the Student from Preceding Interpreters
- Tendency to Rush Ethical Conclusions
- Does Not Provide Method that Aligns with Divine Design and Goal of Study

The 10,000 Foot Fly-By Method: Confidence in the Quantity of General Information

- Read Large Sections of Scripture Daily (At Intervals)
- Gain a General Understanding of What is in that Section
- Teach/Tell Others the General Impressions
- Forget What You Read/ No Meditation on Meaning
- No Depth of Connection

The Plug-and-Play Method: Confidence in Personal Impact

- Read Verse For the Day
- Be Impressed How a Word or Phrase in that Verse Speaks to You
- Tell Everyone How God Spoke to You

The Point-and-Click Method: Confidence in Divine Guidance

- Open Bible To Random Verse
- Believe That Random Opening is a “Casting of Lots” To Where God wants to Speak to You Today
- Insert Plug-and-Play

The Group-Think Method: Confidence in Relational Sharing

- Gather Two Or More Together
- Read the Verse(s)
- Ask Everyone What that Verse(s) Mean(s) to Each, and How it is Significant in Each Life, Diverge into Personal Stories
- Relating Through Sharing Individual Meaning and Significance Becomes Goal

The Regurgitative Method: Confidence in Trusted Source

- Find a Text (optional).
- Listen to Sermons by “Fill-in-the-blank” Pastor/Preacher OR
- Read a Favorite Commentary OR
- Read the Study Notes in a Study Bible
- Tell Everyone What Pastor X/Commentary Y/Study Note Z said
- Elevates Trusted Source to Position of Authority Rather than Scripture

The Specialization Method: Confidence in Exhaustive Research in Specified Area

ORIGINAL SETTING



ORIGINAL PERSONS



Difficulty of The Specialization Method

- Gaps Between Present and Original Not So Easily Divided Between a Setting Context and a Personal Context (e.g., The Intent of the Author in Connection with an Historical Event)
- Some Gaps May Require Resources that the Present Person May not Afford OR May not be Educated to Understand (e.g., Original Languages)
- Dividing into Smaller Chunks of Study Might Cause Problems
- No Clear Beginning, Middle, or End.
- No Clear Purpose or Ethical Response
- Great Temptation for Pridefulness, Intellectual Dishonesty, and Hypocrisy

The Topical Method: Confidence in Formulation, Generic Acceptance, and Applicability

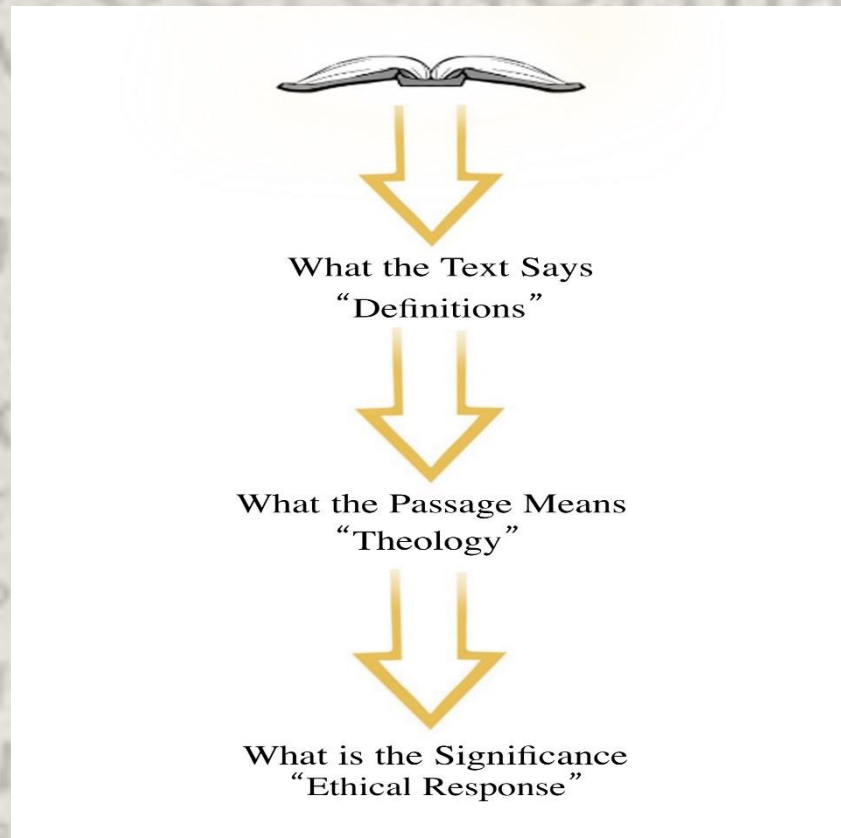
- Pre-select a personal issue, a confusing doctrine, an area of theology
- Selectively or Exhaustively based on Cross-References or Advice from Others Study the Topic
- Prone to Proof Texting.
- Takes More Effort
- Can Be Very Man-Centered or Overlording (e.g., “Biblical Counselors”)

The Pray-the-Scripture Method: Confidence in Heart Attitude Towards Obedience

- Select Verse(s)
- Pray Back to God What Verse Signifies To You With Desire for Obedience
- No Work to Understand the Passage Prior to Prayer
- Willingness to Obey Substituted with Mind to Understand

The Inductive Bible Study Method: Confidence in Sustained Effort

Observe—Interpret—Apply



Observe

- Ask Reporter Questions (5Ws 1H)
- Make lists of words (repeated, contrasted, change of topic, cause effect, etc).
- Write it down

The Inductive Bible Study Method: Confidence in Sustained Effort

Interpret

- Cultural Context
- Author and Broader Context
- Cross-Referencing
- Clearest-Meaning

Apply

- What does it mean for us?
- Revisit Important Reporter Questions and Ask Why Important?

The Pro's and Con's of the Inductive Bible Study Method

PROS

- Forces the student to make definitions
- Teaches Student to Use Introductions, Notes, Concordance
- Introduces Student to Hermeneutics

CONS

- Habitually it misses the larger scope of the work and reduces Scripture to impactful words or verses
- Difficulty In Creating Quality Questions
- No Test of Interpretation

The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- **SURVEY:** To Gain a Familiarity with the Setting, Author, and Recipients, Purpose, Themes and Structure of the Book By Those Before
 - 1) Preparatory: The Introduction to the Book, The Outline, and Notes
 - 2) Familiarity: Skim Reading of Whole Book Once Per Day
 - 3) Observational: Reinforcement of Purpose, Theme and Structure, Examine Literary and Textual Markers to Defend Outline
 - 4) Detailed Reading of Text

The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- **SURVEY** (cont): Block the Context into Visual Clues

- 1) Convert the Outline from Resource into Literary Blocks

- 2) Put Identifying Headers and Titles and Chapter Markers in Blocks

- 3) Memorize

- 4) Add more detail and more structure through repetition

The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- **DIAGRAM:** To Expose and Order Every Word, Phrase, Clause, Sentence, and Paragraph with Each Other
 - 1) Details of grammar and syntax for every word and phrase is required (line diagramming)
 - 2) Determining relationships between clauses is discovered (line diagramming)
 - 3) Literary and linguistic categories highlighted (block diagramming)
 - 4) Reinforces the Structure of the Book, the Theme, and the Purpose

The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- **DIAGRAM** (cont):

4) LEXICAL ANALYSIS collected, studied and argued

5) SYNTACTICAL ANALYSIS collected, studied and argued

6) PROBLEM SOLUTIONS: A list of the contextual and theological pros and cons for a particular word meaning or syntax choice.

7) CONCLUSION COMPARISON: Examine final choice in light of what other interpreters have argued and concluded.

The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- **PARAPHRASE:** Forces the student to write out the determined decisions for interpretation and significance in clear words and insert into the flow of the original text
 - 1) Tests Decisions on Lexical (meaning of words) and Syntax (Flow of Logic and Argument) in the Whole
 - 2) Exposes Disjointed and Nebulous Decisions of Interpretation as Read in the Whole
 - 3) Reinforces Clarity and Ability to Explain Verse in Modern Vernacular
 - 4) Forces Search for Explanation by Means of Parallel or Illustration
 - 5) Prepares for Ethical Response, Teaching, and Proclamation

The Pro's and Con's of the Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

PROs

- Integrates the Pros of Inductive Method and Eliminates the Cons
- Has Two Points of Checking Against Others
- Student's Ability to Study Becomes Easier Over Time
- Clear Beginning, Middle, and End
- Minimal Resources
- No Originalism

CONs

- It Takes Effort
- Different Literary Genres may prove more difficult to LINE DIAGRAM (Poetry, Wisdom, Narrative)
- No Originalism

Beginning Resources Needed For the Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- A Translation that is Literal, Not Dynamic (e.g., NASB or ESV, not NIV or NLT)
- A Concordance that Matches the Preferred Translation
- A Study Bible with Introductions to Sections and Books of the Bible
- An English Grammar Book and a Book to Teach Diagramming English
- A Journal to Write Down the Diagram, Lexical and Syntactical Problems, Problem Solutions, and the Paraphrase

Intermediate Resources Needed For the Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- A Book On Bible Introduction
- A Bible Encyclopedia Set
- Greek-English and Hebrew-English Lexicons
- A Bible History Set
- A Full Bible Expositional Commentary OR
- An Old Testament and New Testament Expository Commentary
- A Specific Commentary on the Book Studied

Advanced Resources Needed For the Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

- Hebrew Grammar Books
- Hebrew Lexicons
- Greek Grammar Books
- Greek Lexicons
- Hermeneutic Books
- Exegetical Commentary Sets
- Exegetical Commentary Books
- Book on Block Diagramming
- Book on Biblical Literary Genres
- Ancient Israel History Books
- Roman History Books
- Greek History Books
- Systematic Theology Books
- Biblical Theology Books
- Charts and Graphs
- Books on Logic and Writing Well

Λ ΕΝΔΡΥΚΗΗΝΟΛΟΙΗ ΛΥΤΟΙΣΣΟΥΣΙΑΝ
ΚΑΙΟΛΟΤΟΧΗΝ ΚΝΑΟΥΤΕΝΕΣ
ΠΡΟΣΤΟ... ΤΕΥΟΥΣΙ

The Workshop for The Survey—Diagram—Paraphrase Method

